

Neighborhood Plan Update Workshop with Members of the Senior Community

April 23, 2009

Meeting held at Courtland Place

Housing

- We live here because — daughters are near, affordable, familiar, close to downtown, was a long-time area resident, was a long-time area worker
- Need to get ride of gang activity, need to be safer outside, need accessibility

Character (now)

- perceived as “less worthy”
- high crime
- enough small eating places, especially Asian

Character (in future we would like)

- street lighting
- beautification, like Columbia City
- more shopping opportunities
- cameras
- businesses that attract foot traffic
- businesses for low-income shoppers/more affordable shopping options — Grocery Outlet,
- Kmart, WallMart, etc.
- “sit down” restaurants (not fast food), diners
- small park, one we can walk to
- plaza with tables, coffee kiosk, food stands
- bookstore

Parks

- need to be more convenient to get to — I need to take a bus now but would like to be able to
- walk to a nearby park
- safety is a concern
- small pocket park
- would like plants under the pedestrian bridge at MLK/Rainier and other amenities at nearby bus stops

Light Rail (will you ride it?)

- Sometimes — might ride it to the airport
- If I have to take a bus to the station, I might as well stay on the bus

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Transportation

- Sandwich boards & vehicles block the sidewalks, need better enforcement of current laws
- High traffic volume generated by businesses that replace (or are an addition to) existing low
- traffic volume businesses — this really impacts pedestrian safety
- Need more lighting
- Need to replace/maintain sidewalks, tree roots are a big problem
- Need a pedestrian crossing on Rainier at Court St. where there are bus stops, but it is difficult to
- cross Rainier safely
- Wet, slippery leaves on the sidewalks are very dangerous and last for many months